

Sub A171

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1 10. An apparatus for dispensing marketing materials in cooperation with operation of a
2 companion vending machine as recited in Claim 9 wherein the apparatus further
3 comprises:
4 (d) a communication means coupled with the apparatus for communicating
5 operational information with the apparatus regarding operation of the apparatus;
6 and
7 (e) a memory means coupled with said communication means for storing said
8 operational information.

1 16. An apparatus for providing items of value in cooperation with operation of a
2 companion device as recited in Claims 10 or 12 wherein said communication means
3 comprises a cable communication connection with a remote controlling station.

1 17. An apparatus for providing items of value in cooperation with operation of a
2 companion device as recited in Claim 16 wherein said cable communication
3 connection is communicatively coupled with said companion device.

18. A method for providing at least one item of value from an apparatus in cooperation with operation of a companion device; said companion device delivering at least one first product to a user; the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a control means for controlling said providing;
- (b) providing a providing means for effecting said providing; said providing means being coupled with said control means; and
- (c) providing a link with said companion device for effecting said cooperation.

1 19. A method for providing at least one item of value in cooperation with operation of a
2 companion device as recited in Claim 18 wherein the method comprises the further
3 step of:
4 (d) providing a communication means coupled with the apparatus for communicating
5 operational information with the apparatus regarding operation of the apparatus;
6 and
7 (e) providing a memory means coupled with said communication means for storing
8 said operational information.

1 20. A method for providing at least one item of value in cooperation with operation of a
2 companion device as recited in Claim 19 wherein the method comprises the further
3 step of:

add cr7

[illegible]